

**WHEREAS**, During Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month, we honor and celebrate the millions of Asian/Pacific Americans whose contributions have helped make America a strong, vibrant, and free society; and

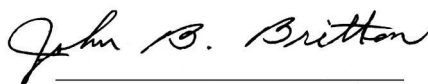
**WHEREAS**, Asian/Pacific Americans represent many nations and ethnicities, each with its own culture, heritage, language, and experience. Across our country, this diverse group of people has excelled in all walks of life. Their talent and hard work have added to the success and prosperity of our Nation and helped make America a leader in the world. They have helped shape America's character and identity through their strong values, love of family, and commitment to community. America is especially grateful to the many Asian/Pacific Americans who have courageously answered the call to defend freedom as members of our Armed Forces. The sacrifices of these brave men and women help preserve the ideals of our country's founding and make the world a safer place;and

**WHEREAS**, to honor the achievements and contributions of Asian/Pacific Americans, the City of Rockville, has designated the month of May each year as "Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month."

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF ROCKVILLE**, do hereby proclaim May, 2009, as ASIAN/PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH in Rockville, and call upon all the residents of this great city to join me in celebrating with our Asian Pacific American friends and neighbors.



Susan R. Hoffmann, Mayor



John B. Britton, Councilmember



Piotr Gajewski, Councilmember



Phyllis Maruccio, Councilmember



Anne M. Robbins, Councilmember

May 4, 2009